

1000 Vermont Avenue, NW

Suite 1100

Washington, DC 20005 Main: 202-296-8800 Fax: 202-296-8822

www.environmentalintegrity.org

August 14, 2017

Via online form submission.

National Freedom of Information Officer U.S. Environmental Protection Agency 1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW (2822T) Washington, DC 20460

Re: Freedom of Information Act request for EPA Records of Administrator Pruitt's schedule of meetings with outside parties from May 19 through August 14, 2017 and travel vouchers from June 13 through August 14, 2017

Dear FOIA Officer:

Pursuant to the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA), 5 U.S.C. § 551 et seq., I am writing on behalf of the Environmental Integrity Project (EIP) to request the following records held by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA):

Records Requested

- Records of Administrator Pruitt's schedule of meetings with outside parties from May 19, 2017 to August 14, 2017 that includes the persons with whom the Administrator met, their organizational affiliations, and the topics discussed.
 - o For the purposes of this request, the term "outside parties" includes any person who is not an employee of the federal government.
 - The request for "meetings" includes information that indicate the date, time, location, topic, and host organization for any speeches or other presentations by the Administrator at locations outside the offices of EPA or other federal buildings.
- Records of Administrator Pruitt's travel vouchers, including records of payments made and/or pending claims for reimbursement, from June 13, 2017 to August 14, 2017.

Format of Records

EPA has provided records of (1) Administrator Pruitt's calendar from February 21 through March 31, 2017 and (2) Administrator Pruitt's travel vouchers from March 1 through May 31, 2017, in response to a separate May 18 FOIA request submitted by EIP (EPA-HQ-2017-007486). *See* Attachment A (calendar) and Attachment B (travel vouchers). The February

21 through March 31, 2017 calendar was also provided in response to earlier FOIA requests by both InsideEPA (EPA-HQ-2017-004932) and E&E News (EPA-HQ-2017-005895).

Schedule of Meetings with Outside Parties

EIP will accept disclosure of Administrator Pruitt's May 19 through August 14, 2017 schedule of meetings with outside parties in a format similar to the records of the Administrator's calendar provided in EPA's earlier response to the InsideEPA and E&E News. *See* Attachment A.

Travel Vouchers

EIP will accept disclosure of Administrator Pruitt's June 13 through August 14, 2017 travel vouchers in a format similar to the records of the Administrator's travel vouchers provided in EPA's earlier response to EIP's May 18 FOIA request. *See* Attachment B.

Further, as EPA has indicated it intends to produce the Administrator's calendar from April 1 through May 18, 2017 by September 11, 2017 in response to EIP's May 18 FOIA request, we ask that EPA treat this current FOIA request as separate from EIP's May 18 request. We also ask that EPA treat this current request as separate from EIP's August 3 FOIA request (for records of travel expenditures incurred by Administrator Pruitt and accompanying staff), as that request purposefully limited the timeframe of records sought to June 5 through June 12, 2017 in attempt to expedite a response from EPA.

Claims of Exemption from Disclosure

If you regard any documents as exempt from required disclosure under FOIA, please exercise your discretion to disclose them nevertheless, keeping in mind that FOIA "is the most prominent expression of a profound national commitment to ensuring an open Government" and that "[a]ll agencies should adopt a presumption in favor of disclosure." President Barack Obama, Memorandum For the Heads of Executive Departments and Agencies: Freedom of Information Act, 74 Fed. Reg. 4, 863 (Jan. 26, 2009).

In the alternative, after careful review for the purpose of determining whether any of the information is exempt from disclosure, please provide all reasonably non-exempt portions of records and communications as required by FOIA.

Should you elect to invoke an exemption, please provide the required full or partial denial letter and sufficient information to determine whether or not there may be grounds to appeal EPA's decision. In accordance with the minimum requirements and regulations of due process, this information should include:

 Basic factual material, including the originator, date, length, and addresses of the withheld items. • Explanations and justifications for denial, including the identification of the exemption applicable to the withheld information or portions of the information found to be subject to exemption, and how each exemption applies to the withheld material.

Waiving Request for Fee Waiver

This FOIA request meets the case-by-case requirements for a fee waiver, by satisfying each of the six factors which must be met to qualify for a fee waiver under EPA regulations found at 40 C.F.R. § 2.107. However, although EIP is entitled to a fee waiver, we are waiving any request for a waiver of fees.

Opportunity to Provide Clarification

If I can provide any additional information or answer any questions that can help to clarify or limit this request, please do not hesitate to contact me at (202) 888-2701 or via email at slam@environmentalintegrity.org.

Thank you for your assistance with this FOIA request, and I look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,

Sylvia Lam

Attorney

Environmental Integrity Project 1000 Vermont Avenue NW

Suite 1100

Washington, DC 20005

(202) 888-2701

Enclosures:

Attachment A: EPA Records of Administrator Pruitt's Calendar from February 21 through March 31, 2017.

Attachment B: EPA Records of Administrator Pruitt's Travel Vouchers from March 1 through May 31, 2017.